common address space, a method of [facilitating the handling of] processing an [external] application event in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread, comprising the steps of:

sending a quiesce event from said first thread to said second thread in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread to cause said second thread to quiesce;

suspending execution of said first thread until said second thread has quiesced in response to the quiesce event sent to that thread; and

resuming execution of said first thread to process said application event when said second thread has quiesced in response to the quiesce event sent to that thread.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said quiesce event is a termination event causing said second thread to terminate execution.

7. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said quiesce event is a suspension event causing said second thread to suspend execution.

8. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of sending a quiesce event from said [one] first thread to said second thread comprises the step of interrupting the execution of said second thread to give control to a quiesce exit routine.

9. (Amended) The method of Claim 8 wherein said quiesce exit routine checks to determine whether said second thread is holding any [critical] resource required by another thread and quiesces said second thread only if it determines that the second thread is not holding any [critical] resource required by another thread.

10. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, comprising the further steps of:

determining whether said second thread is holding any [critical] resource required by another thread; and

quiescing said second thread only if it is determined that the second thread is not holding any [critical] resource required by another thread.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of releasing any [critical] resource required by another thread that is held by said second thread before quiescing said second thread.

12. (Amended) In a computer system in which a first thread and a second thread of a user application execute concurrently in a common address space, a method of [facilitating the handling of] processing an [external] application event in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread, comprising the steps of:

sending a suspension event from said first thread to said second thread in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread to cause said second thread to suspend;

suspending execution of said first thread until said second thread has suspended in response to the suspension event sent to that thread;

resuming execution of said first thread to process said application event when said second thread has suspended in response to the suspension event sent to that thread; and

resuming said second thread following the processing of said event by said first thread.

13. (Amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein a plurality of additional threads execute concurrently with said first thread in

said address space, said [quiesce] suspension event being sent from said first thread to each of said additional threads.

14. (Amended) The method of Claim 13 wherein execution of said first thread is suspended [is suspended] until each of said additional threads has [quiesced] suspended in response to the [quiesce] suspension event sent to that thread.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Remarks

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended in the preamble to refer to first and second threads "of a user application" (p. 8, line 3) and to recite a method of "processing an application event [p. 10, lines 12-16] in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread". The first element in the body of these claims has been similarly amended to recite that the quiesce or suspension event is sent from the first thread to the second thread "in response to the detection of said application event by said first thread". Claim 5, which formerly contained this limitation, has been cancelled.

This amendment of Claims 1 and 12 is believed to eliminate the basis for the Examiner's objections to the terms "external event", "facilitating" and "handling". Additionally, Claims 1 and 12 now clearly recite the conditions under which the first step is performed. The existing recitation that the quiesce or suspension event is sent "from said first thread" is believed to make it clear that the first thread is the actor, as far as this step is concerned.

Claim 6 has been amended to recite that the quiesce event